

*Alexander G. Supan, 1847-1920.*

Prof. Supan, famous geographer, whose death was recently announced, was born in Innichen, Tyrol, March 3, 1847. He completed his education at the universities of Graz, Vienna, Halle a. S., and Leipsic. In 1884 he became editor of *Dr. A. Petermann's Mitteilungen aus Justus Perthes' Geographischer Anstalt* and served in that capacity for 25 years. From 1884 to 1909 he held the professorship of geography at the University of Czernowitz, and the same position at the University of Breslau from 1909 on. Probably his best-known work is his *Grundzuge der physischen Erdkunde*, which reached its sixth edition in 1916. Of his works that particularly interest meteorologists may be mentioned: *The Cloudiness of the Earth*, an extensive discussion started by Behm and Wagner, which he completed; *Distribution of Rainfall over the Land-Surface of the Earth*, published in 1898; and *Statistics of the Lower Winds*.—H. L.

#### *Dr. Max Margules.*

Lieut. Col. E. Gold has prepared an obituary which appears in *Nature* for October 28, 1920, which discloses the sad circumstances of Dr. Margules' death, on Octo-

<sup>1</sup> An extensive obituary by H. Wagner appears in *Petermann's Mitteilungen*, July-August, 1920, 140-146.

ber 4. It is said that "his death was due to starvation. He had been living on a pension of 400 crowns a month (which is equivalent to 8s.) [\$1.40], and he was too proud to beg for assistance." Dr. Margules became secretary of the Meteorological Institute at Vienna in 1890, having entered the Austrian Meteorological Service in 1880 after studying at Vienna and Berlin. He was 64 years of age.

His work concerned itself chiefly with mathematical discussions of the mechanics of the atmosphere. Among the especially noteworthy works is mentioned the computation of the pressure oscillations of the atmosphere on a rotating globe, in which he found that the period would be exactly 12 hours if the temperature were  $-5^{\circ}$  C. In the Year Book of the Meteorological Institute of Vienna for 1903 he gave a comprehensive discussion of the energy of storms, arriving at the conclusion that "the source of storms is to be sought only in the potential energy of position."

To quote from Lieut. Col. Gold:

Margules retired from active participation in the work of the Austrian Meteorological Service during the directorship of the late Prof. Perner and applied himself to the study of chemistry. He fitted up a small laboratory in his own house, where he lived in comparative retirement. The present writer was saddened to see him there in 1909 entirely divorced from the subject of which he had made himself a master. Meteorology lost him some 15 years ago and is forever the poorer for a loss which one feels might and ought to have been prevented.

—C. L. M.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

### RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE WEATHER BUREAU LIBRARY

C. FITZHUGH TALMAN, Professor in Charge of Library.

The following have been selected from among the titles of books recently received as representing those most likely to be useful to Weather Bureau officials in the meteorological work and studies.

#### Bates, D. C.

Climate of New Zealand. Wellington. 1920. 16 p. 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm.

#### Berget, Alphonze.

Où en est la météorologie. Paris. 1920. 302 p. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm.

#### Bergsträsser, Gotthelf.

Neue meteorologische Fragmente des Theophrast. Arabisch und deutsch. Herausgegeben von G. Bergsträsser, mit Zusätzen vorgelegt von Franz Boll. Heidelberg. 1918. 30 p. 24 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Sitzungsbs. der Heidelberger Akad. der Wissensch. Philos.-historische Klasse. 1918. Abh. 9.)

#### Bölsche, Wilhelm.

Eiszeit und Klimawechsel. Stuttgart. 1919. 77 p. 21 cm.

#### Brockmann-Jerosch, H.

Baumgrenze und Klimacharakter. Zürich. 1919. 255 p. 24 cm. (Pflanzengeographische Kommission der Schweiz. naturforschenden Gesellschaft. Beiträge zur geobotanischen Landesaufnahme 6. Den Berichten der Schweiz. bot. Gesellschaft, Heft, 26, für die Mitglieder und den Tauschverkehr beigelegt.)

#### Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

Relation of weather and business in regard to temperature. Washington. 1919. 12 p. 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. [See Mo. WEATHER REV., Dec. 1919, 47:867.]

#### Eredia, Filippo.

Clima di Zavia (Tripolitania). Roma. 1920. 12 p. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Estratto dal Bol. informazioni, anno 8, no. 1-6.)

Clima di Zuara. Roma. 1919. 19 p. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Estratto dal Bol. d'informazioni, Ott. 1919.)

Precipitazioni acquee in Palestina. Roma. 1920. 14 p. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Estratto dal Bol. della R. Soc. geografica italiana. Fasc. 7-9, 1920.)

#### Fraps, G. S.

Moisture relations of some Texas soils. Austin, Tex. 1915. 36 p. 23 cm. (Texas agric. exper. station. Bull. 183.)

#### Gautier, Raoul.

Résumé météorologique de l'année 1918 pour Genève et le Grand Saint-Bernard. Genève. 1919. 104 p. 23 cm. (Tiré des Archives des sciences physiques et naturelles. Vol. 1. Nov. 1919.)

#### Gautier, Raoul, & Rod, Ernest.

Observations météorologiques faites aux fortifications de Saint-Maurice pendant l'année 1918. Genève. 1919. 30 p. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Extrait des Archives des sciences physiques et naturelles, 1919.)

#### Great Britain. Meteorological office.

Meteorological charts of the Southern ocean between the Cape of Good Hope and New Zealand. 3d edition. London. 1917. 13 p. 36 charts. 24 x 32 cm.

#### Haeuser, Josef.

Der Wolkenbruch in Augsburg und Umgebung am 13. Juni. 1912. Munich. 1914. 16 p. 34 cm. (Abh. des K. Bayer. Hydrotechn. Büros.)

Der Wolkenbruch in Nürnberg und Umgebung am 3. Juli 1914, und die gleichzeiten Gewittererscheinungen in andern Gegenden Bayerns. Munich. 1917. 33 p. 34 cm. (Abh. des K. Bayer. Hydrotechn. Büros.)

#### Hennig, Richard.

Unser Wetter. Eine Einführung in die Klimatologie Deutschlands an der Hand von Wetterkunde. 2nd edition. Leipzig. 1919. 118 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. [Title of 1st ed.: Gut und schlecht Wetter.]

#### Hubert, Henry.

Sur l'emploi des avions en Afrique occidentale pour les recherches d'ordre scientifique. Dakar. 1919. 15 p. 24 cm. (Extrait du Bull. du Comité d'études historiques et scientifiques de l'Afrique occidentale française. 1919.)

#### Huber, Anton.

Temperaturunterschiede zwischen Partenkirchen und dem Föhorte Mittenwald. Munich. 1920. 12 p. 33 cm. (Sonderabdruck aus dem Deutschen meteorol. Jahrbuch für Bayern. 1920.)

#### Karrer, Enoch, & Tyndall, E. P. T.

Relative spectral transmission of the atmosphere. Washington. 1920. p. 377-408. 28 cm. ([U. S.] Bureau of Standards. Scientific papers, no. 389.)

#### Knorr, Ernst.

Studien über die Regenverhältnisse Italiens. Wetzler. 1919. 63 p. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$  cm. (Inaug.-Dis. Giessen.)